ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED

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NANCY MAYER-WHITTINGTON, CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT

In Re: Vitamins Antitrust Litigation

Misc. No. 99-0197 (TFH)

This Document Relates To:

MDL No. 1285

NBTY, Inc., Rexall Sundown, Inc., Twin Laboratories, Inc., and Cambr Company, Inc., f/k/a Solgar Vitamin & Herb Company v.

Case No. 99-CV-2372

F. Hoffman-LaRoche Ltd., et al.,

Perrigo Company, et al v. F. Hoffmann-

Case No. 99-CV-2411

La Roche Ltd., et al.,

Natural Alternatives International, Inc., Nutraceutical Corporation, Makers of Kal, Inc., and Weider Nutrition Group, Inc v. F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd., et al., Case No. 99-CV-2682

Leiner Health Products Inc. v. F. Hoffman-La Roche, et al.

Case No. 99-CV-3047

STIPULATION AND ORDER REGARDING DEGUSSA-HULS AG'S, E.MERCK'S AND MERCK KGaA's RESPONSE TO THE CONSOLIDATED AMENDED COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs in the above-captioned case and Defendants Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck and Merck KGaA stipulate and agree as follows:

1. The time for Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck and Merck KGaA to answer or otherwise respond to the consolidated amended complaint in the above captioned matter shall be extended to and including April 7, 2000. This extension is without any prejudice to these defendants seeking an additional extension of time to answer or otherwise respond.

- 2. If Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck or Merck KGaA files a motion in response to the consolidated amended complaint, any opposition shall be due within 21 days of receipt of such motion, and any reply shall be due within 14 days of receipt of such opposition.
- 3. Degussa-Huls AG, E. Merck and Merck KGaA do not waive, and expressly preserve, any and all defenses including, but not limited to, the defenses of insufficiency of service of process and lack of personal jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Arnold, Esq.

William J. Blechman, Esq.

Paul C. Huck, Jr. Esq.

Kenny Nachwalter Seymour Arnold

Critchlow & Spector

201 South Biscayne Blvd., Suite 1100

Miami, FL 33131

Tel. (305) 373-1000

Attorneys for Plaintiffs in Above-Captioned Cases

Peter E. Halle, Esq. (D.C. Bar No. 408262)

Thomas J. Lang, Esq. (D.C. Bar No. 452398)

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

1800 M Street, N.W.

Suite 600 North

Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel: (202) 467-7000

Attorneys for Defendant Degussa-Hüls AG

Craig M. Walker, Esq.

Lisl J. Dunlop, Esq.

Clifford Chance Rogers & Wells LLP

200 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10166-0153

Tel: 212 878-8000

Attorneys for Defendants E.Merck and

Merck KGaA

Thomas F. Hogan

United States District Judge